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SUBJECT: MGKV01: KOSOVO MONITORING GROUP SITUATION REPORT NO. 06

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TADIC SEEKS INVALIDATION AT UNSC OPEN SESSION ON KOSOVO  
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1. (U) Serbian President Tadic called on UNSYG Ban to instruct his special envoy in Kosovo to invalidate yesterday's declaration of independence, media report. Russia and China supported Tadic's request. South Africa, Indonesia, Vietnam, Libya, and Burkina Faso expressed skepticism over the legality of Kosovo's declaration but were silent on recognition. Croatia, Panama, and Belgium noted the "new realities" on the ground, adding the situation needed further watching. (UN Broadcast)

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UNSYG BAN DEFERS ON LEGALITY OF INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION  
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2. (U) UNSYG Ban said the situation on the ground was "evolving" and he would evaluate UNSCR 1244 in that context. Ban told reporters afterward that he was not there to say whether Kosovo's declaration was legal or illegal, according to media. (UN Broadcast)

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SO FAR, 23 COUNTRIES TO RECOGNIZE KOSOSVO  
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13. (U) Costa Rica's Perm Rep to the UN told the UNSC during its ongoing session that his country would formally recognize Kosovo, media report. So far, six countries have formally recognized Kosovo's independence and 17 more have announced their intent to recognize. (UN Broadcast)

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SERBIAN AMBASSADOR RECALLED FOR AN INDETERMINATE PERIOD  
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14. (SBU) Serbian Ambassador to the United States Ivan Vujacic gave EUR DAS DiCarlo February 18 a note of protest over our recognition of Kosovo and informed her of his immediate recall to Belgrade for extended consultations. Vujacic confirmed that all ambassadors to countries recognizing Kosovo have been recalled. (EUR/Serb Ambassador Meeting)

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SERBIAN PARLIAMENT SAYS KOSOVO DECLARATION NULL AND VOID  
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15. (SBU) Serbia's Parliament overwhelmingly approved February 18 the government's decision to declare Kosovo's independence null and void. PM Kostunica blamed the secession on the U.S. and EU. Ultra-nationalist Radical Party members defended the hooligans who attacked the U.S. and Slovenian Embassies February 17, calling them "ordinary people" whose actions make Serbia "proud." (Embassy Belgrade/Kosovo Monitoring Group e-mail)

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EMBASSY BELGRADE TO BE CLOSED FEBRUARY 19  
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16. (SBU) The decision was based on the overall security situation. The EAC will meet again to decide about February 20 operations. (Belgrade 180)

17. (U) Minimize considered.  
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